

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4133

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PARA IAEA IN UR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS ON INDIAN-IAEA HEAVY WATER SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT

REF: MOSCOW 452

1. IN HIS TALKS WITH THE SOVIETS ON MARCH 22-24, FRG
POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE
SOVIET HEAVY WATER SALE TO INDIA. HE DID THIS ONLY
AFTER MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CHIEF ISRAELYAN
CRITICIZED THE FRG-BRAZIL NUCLEAR DEAL. AS A RESULT,
OF THIS EXCHANGE, ISRAELYAN' DEPUTY, ROLAND TIMERBAYEV,
DISCUSSED THE SOVIET HEAVY WATER DEAL WITH THE FRG
DISARMAMENT EXPERT ON THE DELEGATION.

2. TIMERBAYEV TOLD THE EXPERT THAT THE DEAL WITH INDIA
WAS CONCLUDED IN SEPTEMBER 1976 FOR THE SHIPMENT OF
200 TONS OF HEAVY WATER, APPROXIMATELY 40-50 TONS HAVE
BEEN DELIVERED BY REMAINS IN "SECURED STORAGE" IN INDIA
FOR THE TIME BEING. TIMBERBAYEV STATED THAT "UNFORTUN-
ATELY" THE IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE INDIANS
WAS DELAYED,BUT THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE HOPES THAT INDIA
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WOULD SPEED UP THE MATTER SO THAT THE AGREE-
MENT WOULD BE READY TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF THE IAEA BY JUNE OF THIS YEAR.

3. DURING MARCH 28 MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HARTMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR ATOMIC
ENERGY I.D. MOROKHOV CONFIRMED ABOVE AND PASSED ON ADDITIONAL

"SECRET": FOR FIRST TIME IN HISTORY, HE CLAIMED, DRAFT AGREEMENT BETWEEN IAEA AND INDIA PROVIDES THAT EVEN AFTER CONTROLLED MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS LEAVE THE INDIAN REACTOR THAT SAME REACTOR WILL REMAIN UNDER IAEA CONTROL (SO-CALLED "CONTAMINATION PRICIPLE"). SOVIETS FULLY ENDORSE THIS AND ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO PRESSURE INDIANS DIRECTLY, MOROKHOV HAS "INDIRECTLY" TAKEN MEASURES TO PERSUADE INDIAN AEC CHAIRMAN TO AGREE. HOWEVER, INDIANS ARE FULLY AWARE THAT THIS DRAFT PROVISION EXCEEDS REQUIREMENTS OF LONDON CLUB AND ARE RESISTING. HE DID NOT HAVE A FEEL FOR HOW NEW INDIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD REACT. IF NEW GOVERNMENT RESISTS SUCCESSFULLY, SOVIETS WILL INSIST THAT AT LEAST LONDON CLUD PRINCIPLES, I.E. FULL IAEA CONTROL OVER HEAVY WATER AND PRODUCTS, BE FOLLOWED.

4. COMMENT: WHEN WE SPOKE TO MOROKHOV IN EARLY JANUARY (REFTEL), HE TOLD US HE EXPECTED THE AGREEMENT TO BE READY IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. AT THAT TIME HE GAVE NO INDICATION TO US THAT THERE WAS ANY PROBLEM IN GETTING THE INDIANS TO US THAT THERE WAS ANY PROBLEM IN GETTING THE INDIANS AND THE IAEA TO AGREE ON SAFEGURADS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HEARD TO JUNE 1977 AS THE NEW TARGET DATE FOR REACHING AN AGREEMENT AND ALSO THE FIRST TIME THE SOVIETS HAVE GIVEN A REASON FOR THE DELAY.
TOON

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